

NH
352.07
N874
1881

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

BOARD OF EDUCATION

—AND—

Superintending School Committee

—OF THE—

TOWN OF NORTHFIELD

—FOR THE—

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1881.

TILTON, N. H.:

Chas. F. Hill, Printer and Stationer, No. 3 Hill's Block.

1881.

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ANNUAL REPORT

+OF+

THE TOWN OF NORTHFIELD.

Account of Money furnished Franklin J. Eastman, Town Treasurer.

The following sums have been received and paid to the Treasurer,
besides the cash balance, March 1, 1880.

Reported in his hands, March 1, 1880,	\$2,824 25
Received of State Treas., Savings Bank Tax,	640 78
Railroad tax,	400 70
Literary Fund,	54 39
County of Merrimack,	395 09
Granite Mills, highway tax,	46 00
G. S. Abbott, arrearage of taxes,	289 17
“ “ Collector, 1880.	5,829 65
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	\$10,480 03

Orders have been given by the Selectmen, as follows:

State tax,	\$1,000 00
County tax,	1,125 00
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	\$2,125 00

PARSONAGE INTEREST.

J. F. Taylor, Trinity Parish,	\$5 50
David C. Wyatt, Methodist Society,	5 50
George F. Weeks, Congregational Society,	5 50
Benj. A. Winslow, Baptist Society,	5 50
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	\$22 00

BOUNTIES ON HAWKS.

H. H. Cross,	\$1 20
Thomas R. Payson,	80
Glenn M. Riley,	40
Richard W. Dearborn,	40
George Roberts,	40
Frank P. Rand,	20
Wesley Knowles,	20
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	\$3 60

Paid three \$100. Bonds and interest,	\$306 00
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COUPONS PAID BY THE TREASURER.

Outstanding,	\$36 00
1880,	1,059 00
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	\$1,095 00

DAMAGE TO DOMESTIC ANIMALS BY DOGS.

Joseph P. Dearborn, sheep killed,	\$7 00
Edgar O. Downing, "	5 00
Smith G. Wadleigh, "	4 00
Thomas R. Payson, "	2 00
Frank P. Rand, "	6 00
Josiah H. Philbrick, "	8 00
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	\$32 00

HIGHWAYS.

Paid C. D. Bryant, labor, and supporting watering tub,	\$5 35
John A. Small, labor,	6 00
Albert M. Cross, repairing bridge,	2 00
Eben B. Calef, labor,	12 50
Jason Foss, work on road to Granite Mills,	7 75
Frank P. Rand, non-resident tax worked out,	2 50
J. B. Yeaton, labor on bridge,	1 00
“ “ for plank,	5 50
Albert J. Cate, labor,	2 50
John S. Winslow, covering stone furnished for road near Dr. Gould's house,	24 72
George W. Corliss, labor,	7 50
Center F. Smith, “	3 75
Frank Fellows, “	7 18
W. Smith Hill, labor on Granite Mills road,	16 00
Benj. Glines, labor,	3 10
James M. Thompson, non-resident tax worked out,	1 90
C. G. & J. E. Smith, bridge plank,	13 00
James N. Forrest, labor,	10 00
B. P. Simonds, bridge plank and timber,	47 09
D. H. Drown, labor,	5 50
Albert H. Tebbetts,	2 25
Frank Fellows, breaking roads,	2 00
Edgar O. Downing, Surveyor, breaking roads,	14 41
Thomas R. Payson, labor,	2 12
George M. Riley, “	1 00
Charles D. Bryant, labor, powder, drills, fuse, &c., blasting ledges on Misery road,	19 50
C. D. Bryant, Surveyor, breaking roads,	21 67
John C. Webster, labor,	2 50
F. P. Rand, breaking roads,	2 26
L. M. French, “	2 54
George E. Davis, tax worked,	3 39
O. L. Cross, breaking roads,	3 62
J. B. Yeaton, Surveyor, breaking roads,	6 00

Paid C. W. Plummer, breaking roads,	\$3 49
William Roby, labor,	37
Lewis D. Haines, Surveyor,	10 00
John R. Woodbury, labor,	8 00
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	\$289 96

SCHOOL HOUSE TAXES.

District No. 1,—Stevens & Wilkins,	\$20 00
“ “ 4,—Lowell M. French,	200 00
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	\$220 00

SCHOOL MONEY.

District No. 1,—Otis C. Wyatt, Committee,	\$112 40
“ 2,—Smith W. Glines, “	123 00
“ 3,—Byron Shaw, “	62 00
“ 4,—Lowell M. French, “	85 00
“ 5,—Wm. H. Plummer, “	113 40
“ 6,—J. A. Kimball, “	92 69
“ 7,—Mrs. C. A. Winslow,	78 83
Union District,—James O. Lyford,	282 18
Marden Settlement,	3 91
Mrs. L. R. H. Cross, part of Literary Fund, for Charts, &c.,	10 00
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	\$963 41

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

Paid Lyman B. Fellows, for transient person,	\$1 10
John S. Winslow, for L. T. Davis,	2 75
James N. Forrest, wood for D. Morrill,	2 00
John A. Kimball, for Isaac Kimball,	50 00
A. A. Moulton, professional services,	8 00
H. P. Sewell, for Mrs. Jackman,	23 75
Joseph J. Prescott, for Mrs. R. Prescott,	52 00
John P. Morrison, opening grave for David Morrill,	2 00
C. R. Gould, professional attendance, Mrs. L. Yeaton,	25 00

Paid J. P. Bancroft,	\$13 00
Rev. John Chamberlain, Mrs. Jackman's funeral,	3 00
Wm. H. Clough, provisions for David Morrill,	2 00
Philbrick & Hill, for E. Nudd,	75
“ “ for Fanny Dinsmore,	47 09
C. P. Herrick & Co., for E. Nudd,	5 06
Smith W. Glines, for D. Morrill,	13 00
H. K. Thompson, coffin, &c., D. Morrill,	11 00
“ “ “ “ Mrs. Jackman,	11 00
J. L. Loverin, hearse,	4 00
C. R. Gould, County poor,	36 00
Clough Gorrell, for D. Morrill,	1 00
Jesse Keyser, care Isaac Kimball,	27 00
John C. Smith, “	3 50
Frank Dow, “	35 00
C. P. Herrick & Co., for Ober family,	34 28
“ “ Benj. Collins,	4 00
“ “ Isaac Kimball,	3 03
“ “ David Morrill,	11 84
“ “ L. T. Davis,	6 35
“ “ Moody,	75
“ “ Fanny Dinsmore,	5 00
Smith W. Glines, for E. Nudd,	75
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	\$445 00

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid Jason Foss, Auditor,	\$2 00
Adam S. Ballantyne, Auditor,	2 00
Francis Stevens, Auditor,	2 00
Otis C. Wyatt, Supervisor,	5 00
Oscar P. Sanborn, Supervisor,	5 00
B. W. Sanborn, blanks, &c.,	3 97
Chas. F. Hill, Printing Town Reports,	46 00
“ “ Printing Notices,	1 00

Paid Morrill & Silsby, Record Book,	\$10 00
W. A. Bucklin, Certificate of birth,	25
F. J. Eastman, Centennial appropriation,	100 00
J. P. Morrison, care of Town House,	5 00
Otis C. Wyatt, Supervisor, Nov.,	5 50
“ “ blank check-lists,	1 00
John S. Winslow, services Selectman, School hearing,	75
John M. Watts, Centennial Policeman,	2 00
G. H. H. Silsby & Son, Record Book,	10 00
Philbrick & Hill, wood, &c., for Town House	3 73
A. L. Titcomb, damage to Wagon and Harness,	5 00
H. H. Cross, Centennial Policeman,	2 00
H. I. Glines, for watering tub,	3 00
Alban Ash, sawing wood,	50
C. P. Herrick & Co., Stationery,	15
S. K. Rogers, board of Selectmen,	2 50
George A. Stevens, Record Book,	6 00
“ “ Prescriptions, and School-books,	3 20
Stephen Staples, Police Service,	12 50
William C. French, for watering tub,	3 00
Center F. Smith, “ “	1 50
R. W. Musgrove, for blanks and notices,	1 05
Mrs. L. R. H. Cross, books for poor children,	1 50
“ “ expressage, writing charts, &c.,	1 95
“ “ Services Supt. School Com.,	35 00
Smith W. Glines, Service and Expense as Selectman,	40 00
Jason Foss, “ “	55 00
James N. Forrest, “ “	102 00
Franklin J. Eastman, Treasurer,	30 00
Edward R. Glines, Services as Town Clerk,	35 00
Prof. Lucian Hunt, Centennial Orator,	8 00
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	\$554 05

**Statement of Gardner S. Abbott's Collection, for the year ending
March 1st, 1881.**

Amount committed, April 1, 1880,		\$ 6,264 07
Paid Town Treasurer,	\$5,829 65	
Non-resident highway receipts,	61 74	
Collector's fees,	79 80	
Abated,	90 28	
Uncollected,	202 60	
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		\$6,264 07
Collected on preceeding lists,		\$289 17
Amount of indebtedness, March 1, 1876.		\$ 25,859 46
Present "		14,094 28
		<hr/>
Reduction, in five years,		\$ 11,765 18

The false claim of Benj. F. Cofran, \$71.85, is left out of the account.

INVOICE—APRIL—1880.

227 Polls,	\$ 22,700
172 Horses,	8,412
140 Oxen,	5,515
383 Cows,	7,853
229 other Neat Stock.	3,428
729 Sheep,	1,928
10 Hogs,	80
17 Carriages,	950
Stock in Banks,	3,000
Money at interest,	28,040
Stock in Trade,	6,085
Real Estate,	335,140
	<hr/>
Amount,	\$ 423,131
Invoice, 1879,	\$ 423,858
Reduction,	\$ 727

AMOUNT OF TAX AUTHORIZED TO BE RAISED.

Warrant of County Treasurer,	\$ 1,125 00
“ State Treasurer,	1,000 00
Vote of Town, March, 1880,	2,500 00
Former vote of Town, Parsonage interest,	22 00
School Fund interest,	42 00
School Money,	875 00
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	\$ 5,564 00
Five per cent. might have been added,	278 20
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	\$ 5,842 20

Amount of Taxes as committed to Collector.

Resident, money,	\$ 5,029 88
Non-resident, money,	727 40
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	\$ 5,757 28
Dog tax,	59 00
Non-resident highway tax,	223 48
School-house taxes, Nos. 1 and 4,	224 31
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	\$ 6,264 07
Amount raised, including dog tax,	\$ 5,816 28
Authorized,	5,842 20
Rate of taxation, \$1.36, money, and .42 highway.	

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES N. FORREST, } *Selectmen*
 JASON FOSS, } *of*
 SMITH W. GLINES, } *Northfield.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The financial standing of Northfield on the first of March, 1881, demonstrates that the policy which has prevailed since 1875 is surely and rapidly bringing the town to that condition which every tax-payer desires—we mean a town free and clear of law suits, and out of debt.

The reduction of indebtedness, from March, 1876 of \$9,847.71 added with the \$1,917.47 of the past year, makes a total of \$11,765.18 in five years; averaging more than twenty-three hundred dollars annually. Our liabilities exist in bonds, \$5,800.00 due in 1883, and \$6,100 each maturing in 1888-93.

The resources on hand to meet the obligations of May, 1883, consist in twenty-five hundred in the Iona Savings Bank, and one thousand dollars in the Franklin Savings Bank. In the ordinary course this will add over one hundred dollars by way of tax revenue, and four hundred dollars besides, in earned and future interest, equivalent to four thousand dollars for that contingency.

It is evident, with no very bad luck, an amount of taxation the present year equal to last, will amply protect our maturing obligations two years hence.

Town of Northfield, in account with F. J. EASTMAN, Treasurer.

	CR.
March 1, 1880, Cash on hand,	\$ 2,824 25
Received on tax, 1877,	30 90
“ “ 1878,	46 59
“ “ 1879,	211 68
“ “ 1880,	5,829 65
“ Railroad tax,	400 70

Received on Savings Bank tax,	\$ 640 78
“ Literary Fund,	54 39
“ Reimbursement from County poor,	395 09
“ Granite Mills tax,	46 00
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	\$ 10,480 03

DR.

Cash on hand,	\$ 9,24 01
Deposited in Savings Bank,	3,500 00
Paid for Bonds and int.,	306 00
on Selectmen's orders,	2,530 02
County tax,	1,125 00
State tax,	1,000 00
Coupons, 1878,	18 00
“ 1879,	18 00
“ 1880,	1,059 00
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	\$ 10,480 03

Taxes raised the last Five Years and the Reduction of Debt.

1876-7,	Amount, \$ 7,324 25	Reduction, \$ 2,912 20
1877-8,	“ 7,748 29	“ 3,500 00
1878 9,	“ 6,685 94	“ 1,850 00
1879-80,	“ 6,275 86	“ 1,585 51
1880-81,	“ 6,264 07	“ 1,917 47
		<hr/>
		\$ 11,765 18

OUR LIABILITIES.

Bonds,	\$ 18,000 00
Interest 4 months,	360 00
1879 Coupons not presented,	6 00
1880 “ “	39 00
Due District No. 3,	343 56
“ “ 8,	35 00
Outstanding bills,	50 00
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	\$ 18,833 56

ASSETS.

Funds in Tilton Savings Bank,	\$ 2,500 00
" Franklin Savings Bank,	1,000 00
Interest,	80 00
Note, C. T. French,	30 27
Due in Sewel case, as per agreement,	90 00
Cash on hand,	924 01
Taxes uncollected,	100 00
Draw back on bounties,	15 00
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Leaving,	\$ 4,739 28
Town owes,	\$ 14,094 28

EXPENSE OF OFFICERS, AND SERVICES.

James N. Forrest, Selectman,	\$ 102 00
Jason Foss, "	55 00
Smith W. Glines, "	40 00
Mrs. O. L. Cross, Supt. School Committe,	35 00
E. R. Glines, Clerk,	35 00
F. J. Eastman, Treasurer,	30 00
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	\$ 297 00

	1880.	1881.
County tax,	\$ 1,300 18	\$ 1,125 00
State tax,	976 00	1,000 00
Railroad tax,	417 45	400 70
Savings Bank tax,	715 63	640 78
Literary fund,	63 27	54 39
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Twelve months from the present date will find our interest account of \$1,500 in 1876 reduced to \$720. yearly.

The loss of revenue from diminished Savings Bank returns and Railroad Stock will be compensated for in part by the addition of Factory property, exempted by vote, ten years since to the taxable list.

The policy that inaugurated this principle of fostering manufacturing, will bear its fruit in the immediate future, proving, conclusively, that a liberal course in regard to capital, no matter how invested, is at all times and under all circumstances desirable.

Excessive valuations are neither wise or politic, for they repel population enterprise and wealth. The usual expenses of the town can be estimated with reasonable accuracy.

There are providences and casualties that human foresight cannot intelligently determine, law-suits, freshets, damages from defective highways are probable contingencies that may disturb the figures of any board of Selectmen.

We can congratulate ourselves that these agencies have been infrequent in qualifying our town reports. There is another element, and an important one, which can be and has been some years entirely disposed of as far as the treasury is concerned. We refer to care of winter roads. The objective point of every property owner and tax payer is to get out of debt. Our estates then have a value real and substantial, in dollars and cents.

There is no public encumbrance on them. If a man wants to purchase there is the prestige of a town owing nothing.

This fact is a real consideration that adds to their value as much as fertility does to soil or good flesh and condition to neat stock. Put public spirit enough into a population to break its roads in winter and you always find other qualities enough to make a live and prosperous town. There may be a few districts with large limits, sparsely settled, that equitably need assistance. Some towns, however, make a raid on the treasury in stormy weather. We have seen reports where the sum paid for breaking winter roads exceeded the pauper and school expenses combined.

A snow-storm becomes a god-send. The improvement in this respect in Northfield has materially aided in reducing the debt within the last five years. It is one of those burdens local pride ought to provide for, reasonably, at all events, the abuse of a snow storm should be restrained. We apprehend that if the requirements of the law in regard to settlements with Surveyors on the part of Selectmen were enforced an improvement would be effected and a material saving accomplished. Surveyors themselves would feel the accountability of their office and delinquents could be reached.

Charges are frequently made in common conversation that such a man never worked out half his taxes. In some districts, no work is called for during the summer. These statements, if true, affect the Treasury, tend to demoralization and impair the equities of those who pay in full. Your serious consideration of this matter is respectfully solicited.

Northfield has been fortunate in filling its most important office with the right man. It is a truth that every observing man must recognize. The results he effects, the manner and the means used cannot be improved upon. Every estimate of the small sums, uncollected March first, made by the Selectmen, have been exceeded by the money passed into the treasury by your vigilant Collector.

Two thousand dollars were deposited in Savings Bank in April, 1880, \$500, in January 1881, and \$1,000 March 1, 1881. \$300 in Bonds were purchased and destroyed during the year. And in the Treasury was \$924 01, on the first of March, 1881.

This statement of the condition of your treasury affords cause for continued satisfaction in the large reduction of your indebtedness in the small cost of town management— in the prompt investment of your funds— and not least, in the efficient and almost total collection of taxes. These facts coupled with the improvement of our school houses, the admirable manner in which our school system is superintended, have added to the value of every man's property and improved the moral standing of our whole population; and have placed us high among the list of flourishing and well ordered towns.

Let us then hold our grip on the policy that is fast leading us from under the cloud of debt. The relief coming with lighter taxes, after another year, will be materially felt. Free from all pecuniary obligations contracted by a previous generation, almost, we soon will have thrice cancelled the original sum in its principal and compounded interest.

The future will be bright with promise if the same degree of intelligence and honesty shall continue to animate our citizens and officers as in the past.

F. J. EASTMAN, Treasurer.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

We, the subscribers, having examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer, for the year ending March 1st, 1881, respectfully submit, that we find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

The following is a statement of the financial condition of the town. The Selectmen charge the Treasurer with having received \$10,480.03 :

Of this amount the Treasurer discharges himself as follows :

Paid Bonds and interest,	\$306 00
State tax,	1,000 00
County tax,	1,125 00
Parsonage interest,	22 00
School money,	963 41
School House taxes,	220 00
Bounties,	3 60
Outstanding coupons,	36 00
Coupons for 1880,	1,059 00
Damage to domestic animals,	32 00
For highways,	289 96
Support of poor,	445 00
Current expenses,	554 05
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	\$6,056 02

Leaving a balance in hands of Treasurer, \$4,424 01

The same is accounted for as follows:

Deposit in Iona Savings Bank,	2,500 00
Franklin Savings Bank,	1,000 00
Cash in treasury,	924 01
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	\$4,424 01

LIABILITIES AS FOLLOWS:

Bonds,	\$18,000 00
Interest due on bonds,	360 00
Coupons for 1880,	39 00
“ “ 1879,	6 00
Due School District No. 3,	343 56
“ “ “ “ 8,	35 00
Outstanding bills, estimated,	50 00
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	\$18,833 56

AVAILABLE MEANS.

Cash in Treasurer's hands,	924 01
Deposits in savings banks, as sinking fund,	3,500 00
Accrued interest on same,	80 00
C. T. French's note,	30 27
Due from W. H. Watson, part of costs in Sewell case,	90 00
Taxes estimated good,	100 00
Bounty reimbursement due from the State,	15 00
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	\$4,739 28

Liabilities,	\$18,833 56
Available means,	4,739 28
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Present indebtedness,	\$14,094 28

Indebtedness March 1st, 1880,	\$16,011 75
Reduction of debt,	\$1,917 47

J. E. SMITH,
A. S. BALLANTYNE, } *Auditors.*

March 1, 1881.

ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE

Superintending School Committee.



CITIZENS OF NORTHFIELD :

In presenting to you the condition of our schools during the year covered by the present report, I am happy to bear testimony to the generally satisfactory condition of most of them, and in this connection, I wish, also, to present some items that deserve particular attention.

TEACHERS.

I have found none who presented themselves for examination, so deficient in the specified branches as to warrant a refusal of certificates, yet some few, I fear, were not possessed of sufficient general information, to suggest questions, stimulate curiosity, and make the pupils inquisitive. The collateral information that a well-read and communicative teacher always brings to the classroom, is worth a thousand times more than the limited verbiage of the text-book. If some of them had even reviewed the assigned lessons in advance of their classes, they might have been more familiar, with the pronunciation of common words, and especially modern geographical names. Most of them have been faithful *workers*, and some have achieved quite wonderful success.

ATTENDANCE.

There has been quite a marked improvement in this respect over last year, yet some of the registers tell a sad tale of absence and tardiness.

I find a growing pride in this respect that bodes well for the

future, and some who were unavoidably absent have taken the trouble to inform me privately of the reasons therefor.

With the same number of scholars as last year, the absences only show an aggregate of 1365 against 2276 last year, a gain of 45 1-2 weeks.

TEXT BOOKS.

My efforts in this direction have been mainly in throwing out such as have legally no right in our schools. I have introduced no new book. Watson's Script Spellers were in use in two schools, and I made them uniform, throwing out the old spellers and writing books thereby. Harper's geography had come in from the seminary and adjoining towns, and was so well established that I adopted it for advanced classes; while Swinton's primary is still in use, and indeed, I am inclined to think, the plan of crossing authors a good one. Finding Greenleaf's arithmetics in so many schools, I advised all purchasing new books, to obtain them.

In order that parents may act understandingly in this matter, I have subjoined a list of text-books now in use.

I did not furnish newspapers for the several schools, as proposed in my last report, as we were in the midst of a political campaign, and they would necessarily contain much that it were better for them not to know at present. I think, however, they can be obtained for the future without expense.

ARITHMETIC.

This branch has been better taught the past year than any other; most of the work in recitation being other than the regular lesson. Pupils have been sent to the black-board without text-books, rules, or answers, and required to demonstrate principles rather than solve intricate problems. Such a course, and the necessary results have been eminently satisfactory. I wish I might be able to say as much for the classes in

READING.

This branch seems to lose ground, and I am safe in saying that

there are scarcely a dozen good, expressive readers in the schools at present. I think, altogether, too much ground is gone over, and that the majority are struggling through too difficult work.

I would suggest that reading be made a specialty, and that all classes be called up twice a day at least, once for preparation—the pupils following the dictation of the teacher, either singly or in concert—perhaps both.

HISTORY, BOOK-KEEPING, &C.

I have found a few in most of the schools attending to these advanced branches. I approve of the plan, heartily, where there is sufficient advancement in other branches to warrant it, especially the latter. Yet I think the two elementary forms should suffice, and that more time should be devoted to the practical application of the simplest business principles.

ALGEBRA.

I would like to see this study displaced in our schools by some work on the science of familiar things.

Such a study would keep theories in their place, beside general practice, and call the pupils from *books* to the study of *things* which they ought to know.

PENMANSHIP AND SPELLING.

I think the plan of combining these two branches in the manner our new text book indicates, a very profitable one. Good results are already perceptible, and in many cases the progress has been truly wonderful.

LANGUAGE.

I can report much better work in this department than last year. Swinton's methods are becoming more popular with teachers and pupils. I have seen much written work, and though not wholly satisfactory, is full of promise for the future.

APPARATUS, &C.

The effort by which Webster's dictionaries were placed in our

schools, although involving much time and care, was among the most pleasant of my labors for the year, answers to my solicitations coming in promptly from both present and former pupils, bearing not only good wishes and pleasant reminiscences, but benefits of a more tangible character, in lavish supply. The names of the donors, as recorded in the books, number five hundred, and embrace in some cases nearly a complete list of former pupils. No. 5 enrolls 115, and No. 1, 94.

I would especially notice in this connection the generosity of John C. Tebbetts, and the Curry family, for this kind remembrance of District No. 8 and 4.

Hon. John H. Goodale, whose valuable services as School Commissioner and teacher, long since gained for him the reputation of being a true friend to common schools, besides devoting a gift to the memory of one of our most talented sisters, increased our obligations by adding thereto four sets of writing tablets to be distributed among the schools.

I would suggest the propriety of some public expression by the town, of its recognition, of these acts of generosity.

With the balance of the dictionary fund, and a small advance by myself, I have secured for the use of the schools a Lunatillus, a marvel of ingenuity and mechanical skill, showing at a glance, the shape, motions, and changes of the sun, moon and earth, and their various phenomena. With the literary money, set apart by law, for apparatus, &c., I purchased four other sets of writing tablets; so that now, we have those invaluable aids upon the walls of every school-room.

In conclusion, let me say, that so universal has been the kindness with which I have been received by teachers and pupils, so faithfully have my suggestions been carried out, that I regard my yearly circuit more as visits among friends than the discharge of official duties.

Respectfully submitted,

LUCY R. H. CROSS,

Superintendent of Schools.

DISTRICT NO. 1—CENTRE.

Both terms taught by Clara A. Howard, a teacher of energy and experience, and excellent results followed. Extent and character of work satisfactory. Most of the pupils here always try to do their best. I saw here some fine work in map drawing.

DISTRICT NO. 2—BAY HILL.

Both terms taught by Anda L. Thompson, who has been connected with our schools for several years, and always does good work.

There has been a great gain in attendance here. Good progress was made, considering the uncouth surroundings.

Of the present condition of school-room, and the interest manifested by the citizens, in all matters pertaining to their school, I have only to say, without any personal reference, "Ephraim is joined to his idols," &c.

DISTRICT NO. 3—HODGDON.

One term, in fall, taught by Amelia A. Stevens.

We are glad to see this district come to the front once more.

Not only has it afforded the best advantages to its three resident pupils, but has done some excellent charitable work besides.

I found here, what I seldom find; a marked improvement in each individual pupil.

Miss S. is a graduate of our State Normal School, and if her skill, faithfulness and success is any criterion, I hope to see more Normal teachers in our schools.

DISTRICT NO. 4—RAND.

Summer term taught by Etta J. Woodward, an experienced teacher. I saw the school at the close, under the worst of atmospheric conditions; it being on the eve of the terrific thunder shower, July 16th. I would not do teacher or scholars injustice, and am inclined to think that under more favorable circumstances

the school would have done better. The teacher assures me that "very generally, good work was done, and though not wholly satisfactory, it was than *better* the examination showed." Miss W. has one decided merit, as a teacher, that of not answering a question in asking it, or spelling a word, in pronouncing it.

Fall term, taught by Belle W. Gile, an experienced teacher, having previously taught several terms in this school, which always gives at the outset a decided advantage. School appeared well at close. There are some excellent scholars here, who will probably find their appropriate place at the seminary hereafter, greatly to the advantage of the smaller pupils.

My report of this district would be incomplete without referring to the pleasant and well appointed room, that has taken the place of the old. The district has acted wisely in this matter, and good results will follow.

I hope the parents will see that, when another term opens, their children are provided with the prescribed "text books," *and no others*, thus removing a great and almost the last obstacle to intelligent progress and success.

DISTRICT NO. 5—OAK HILL.

Both terms taught by Oliver L. Cross. The class of young ladies and gentlemen who left at the close of last year, lowered the number and advanced standing of this school. The attendance during the summer term was especially good and corresponding progress was made.

I wish more of the schools would make an effort to have singing as a part of each day's exercises, even though their teacher may not be able to lead.

This school is the only one in town, which can boast of possessing a clock, and I may as well say right here, that great credit is due the prudential committee, Wm. H. Plummer, not only for the faithful discharge of customary duties, but for his generous outlay of time in preparing a suitable place for the safe keeping of dic-

tionary, soliciting contributions for purchase of wall lamp, and frequent visits to the school. I hope the two prudential committees who have not seen their school-rooms for the entire year will "go and do likewise."

DISTRICT NO. 6—BEAN HILL.

Summer term taught by Nelly S. French. It cannot be expected that I should report progress very understandingly, from the fact that no scholar who was present at the first visit was present at the close, although the number was larger. The school-room, by the aid of autumn leaves and flowers was a "bower of beauty," and the girls and boys in their "Sunday best," looked, *well*, and still *better*, tried to *do well*, and *best* of all, succeeded; in fact, showed more life and energy than I have ever seen there.

Some insubordination on the part of the children of one family, resulted in depriving them of the school, conditionally. I learned the secret of the whole trouble in a remark of the parent, "That she knew there would be trouble before school began, and if another certain scholar had been able to attend there would have been more." A word to the wise is sufficient. The result was what might have been expected, I am glad to see *rather more than a willingness* on the part of the majority of those interested to put down, once for all, insubordination in any form.

Winter term taught by Mary A. Lake, an experienced teacher.

If Mrs. L. has not the reputation of being one of our most energetic teachers, she has that of doing unremittingly, good, strong and practical work.

She reports oral instruction in book-keeping and interest, to the larger boys, who might leave school before advancing thus far, which I commend.

DISTRICT NO. 7—POND.

Both terms taught by Lucy R. H. Cross. Summer term, the attendance was unusually poor, for this school, partly on account of sickness among the pupils, and at home, consequently, progress

was greatly interrupted. A school of six pupils is too small to be pleasant and social. Fall term, we succeeded in borrowing four pupils from adjoining districts, which greatly increased the interest, and' as a consequence, had a very pleasant and prosperous term.

DISTRICT No. 8—TEBBETTS.

This district, organized the present year, has had no school. They are getting ready, however, for work.

Their old school house has been repaired and enlarged, and now claims to be one of the best in town.

NAMES OF PUPILS PRESENT EVERY HALF DAY.

DISTRICT No. 1—CENTRE.

FIRST TERM.

Sarah J. Sanborn,	Stella F. Wilkins,
Katie H. Sanborn,	John D. Lang,
G. Belle Wilkins,	Alonzo Sanborn.

SECOND TERM.

Frank R. Titcomb,	G. Belle Wilkins.
John D. Lang,	

DISTRICT No. 2—BAY HILL.

FIRST TERM.

Mabel W. Glines,	Johnie W. Glines.
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DISTRICT No. 3—HODGDON.

FIRST TERM.

Alson Reed.	Bertie B. Shaw.
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DISTRICT No. 4—RAND.

FIRST TERM.

Mabel E. French,	Arthur Corliss.
Willie W. French,	

SECOND TERM.

Hattie B. Riley,	Willie W. French,
Mabel E. French,	Leroy Glines,
Jedd Glines,	Lue J. Weymouth.

DISTRICT No. 5—OAK HILL.

FIRST TERM.

Della A. Moore,	Arthur Moore,
Mabel G. Lambert,	Charlie Dow,
Lura A. Dow.	Guy Dow,
Ada Keniston,	Bertie Glines,
Almore Plummer,	Edmond Fifield.
Freddie Fifield,	

SECOND TERM.

Della A. Moore,	Arthur Moore.
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DISTRICT No. 7—POND.

FIRST TERM.

Arthur B. Cross,
Robert Lee Cross,

Evelyn M. Cross.

SECOND TERM.

Arthur B. Cross,
Robert L. Cross,

Evelyn M. Cross,
Josie A. Glines.

Arthur B. Cross,
Jedd Glines,
Della A. Moore.

Not absent half day for two years. Sarah J. Sanborn would have been on this list, but for one day's absence on account of her mother's death.

Tabular Statement.

No. of District.	Name of District.	Length of School.	No. of Pupils.	No. in Reading.	No. in Spelling.	No. in Arithmetic.	No. in Geography.	No. in Grammar.	No. in Bookkeeping.	No. in History.	No. in Algebra.	Absences.
1	Center,	17.3	22	22	22	14	9	4	1	1		232
2	Bay Hill,	20	8	8	8	6	5	3	2	2		233
3	Hodgdon,	12	10	10	10	7	3	1	1	1	1	57
4	Rand,	16	18	18	18	15	11	9	1	4	3	94
5	Oak Hill,	19.9	25	25	25	21	12	10	1	1		224
6	Bean Hill,	18	10	10	10	6	2	1				240
7	Pond,	18.5	11	11	11	9	6	7		4	1	175
8	Tebbetts,											
Total,		121.7	104	104	104	78	48	35	5	13	5	1365

LIST OF TEXT BOOKS.

Franklin Readers, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

Watson's Script Spellers.

Greenleaf's New Practical Arithmetic.

“ Manual of Intellectual Arithmetic.

“ Primary Arithmetic.

Harper's School Geography.

Swinton's Primary Geography.

“ Language Primer.

“ New Language Lessons.

“ New English Grammar.

“ New School Composition.

Quackenbos' History.

Meservey's Book Keeping.

Stickney's Child Book of Language.

REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The last Board of Education in their annual report suggested the addition of a third department to the graded school; and the force of this suggestion was felt by the present board when they took charge of the affairs of the district. The school was accordingly divided, as nearly as could be with existing accommodations, into a primary, an intermediate and a grammar department; and at the commencement of the fall term, when the third school-room was ready for occupancy, the grading was perfected. The number of classes to each teacher has been reduced, the course of study for each department prescribed and regulated, and the whole work of the school systematically arranged. There is no question of the necessity of three departments; and the immediate advantages accruing therefrom have surpassed expectation.

The teachers, Miss Lutie W. Sanborn, Miss Nellie M. Brown and Miss Marion E. Lyford, have had charge of the grammar, intermediate and primary departments, respectively, the entire year. They have evinced an active interest in their work; have acted in harmony with the board in all its endeavors to elevate the standard of the school, and have met with flattering success. Familiar as they are with the scholars and the nature of the school, the district cannot better subserve its

interests than by continuing them in charge of their several departments another year.

Unless there is call for a radical change in the management of the school, all are aware of the disadvantage arising from frequent changes in the entire school board. To obviate this, it is urged that the district adopt the custom of electing one new member of the Board of Education every year.

The committee consisting of F. J. Eastman, John Keniston, and John F. Eastman, to whom was committed the charge of finishing and furnishing the room for a third department, attended to its duties in a very commendable manner. The chairman, Mr. F. J. Eastman, superintended all the work, and by giving it his personal attention, succeeded in completing it seventy-five dollars less than the appropriation, and yet securing a commodious, convenient, and comfortable school-room. The entire committee are deserving the commendation of the district.

A general sickness among scholars during the fall term interfered somewhat with the work of the school year, and compelled this board to close the school during that term. Aside from this the sessions have been regular, and the attendance fair.

Your attention is called to the law which provides that no child under 15 years of age shall be employed in any manufacturing establishment, unless he has attended some public school, or private day school, at least twelve weeks during the year preceding; and no child under 12 years of age, unless he has attended school as aforesaid, at least six months, etc. In many cases the population who would be affected most by this law, has been fluctuating, residing here a few weeks, and then moving elsewhere. In other cases the labor of whole families in the mills, has been necessary to their support, and if the law had been strictly complied with, they must have become a charge upon the town. An evening school has been started by some of our citizens for the benefit of such, but even this

does not comply strictly with the letter of the law, which makes a "private day" school the alternative of a public school. As there is an article in the warrant on the subject of evening schools, it is perhaps unnecessary for the Board of Education to here express any opinion thereon.

ROLL OF HONOR.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

First Term.—Clara Staples.

Second Term.—Ellen G. Moore, Annie L. Young, Jerry Hunkins.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

First Term.—Alice J. Dolly, Leon B. Peabody, Mary Perthel, Henry Huff, Helen M. Jewell, Cora E. Winch, Lilly B. Davenport, Betsey A. Drown.

Second Term.—Mary Perthel, Edna Davis.

Third Term.—Emily B. Johnson, Sammy Almy, Goddhold Perthel, Mary Perthel, Leon B. Peabody, Fred C. Wyatt.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

First Term.—Charlie Winch, Frankie M. Davis, Minnie E. Greenwood.

Third Term.—Arthur Staples, Dyer Doherty, George Bell Rogers.

TABLE OF STATISTICS.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

	<i>First Term.</i>	<i>Second Term.</i>	<i>Third Term.</i>
Length of school in weeks,	11	11	8
Whole number of scholars,	21	27	22
Average attendance,	17	22	18
Number in Reading,	21	27	22
“ Spelling,	21	27	22
“ Penmanship,	19	24	20
“ Arithmetic,	21	27	22
“ Geography,	17	16	13
“ Grammar,	8	11	8
“ History,	3	14	12
“ Algebra,	3	0	0
“ Instances of Tardiness,	25	15	8
“ Dismissals,	17	18	12

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

	<i>First Term.</i>	<i>Second Term.</i>	<i>Third Term.</i>
Length of school in weeks,	11	11	8
Whole number of scholars,	50	37	26
Average attendance,	41	33	23
Number in Reading,	50	37	26
“ Spelling,	50	37	26
“ Penmanship,	50	37	26
“ Arithmetic,	50	37	26
“ Geography,	30	37	26
“ Instances of Tardiness,	48	24	12
“ Dismissals,	10	0	2

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

	<i>First Term.</i>	<i>Second Term.</i>	<i>Third Term.</i>
Length of school in weeks,	11	11	8
Whole number of scholars,	42	45	33
Average attendance,	31	33	28
Number in Reading,	42	45	33
“ Spelling,	42	45	33
“ Arithmetic,	0	0	10
“ Penmanship,	0	10	10
“ Instances of Tardiness,	120	167	161
“ Dismissals,	16	0	0

CHARLES R. GOULD, } *Board*
 JAMES O. LYFORD, } *of*
 SELWYN B. PEABODY, } *Education.*

Tilton, March 1, 1881.



2500 Sacks wheat

700 " Barley

16 Horses & mules

400 acres sowed this
year

640 acres in the farm

60 miles from Samt

Forrest.

9 Selectmen

2 Treasurer

2 School Committee

1 Collector

2 years Rep